

## HONORING THE BEST TEACHERS OF ACADIANA

**HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 15, 2005*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a special group of individuals from the Seventh Congressional District of Louisiana. I am proud to represent this distinguished group from my district. They are teachers, who have dedicated their lives to educating our leaders of tomorrow. Recently, Regent Broadcasting Corporation held a banquet to honor the best teachers in the Acadiana area. I join them in this endeavor and enter into the official CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the names of each one of these educators. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking them for their service to our children.

They are: Cassie Arceneaux, Rosemary Arnold, Stephen Arnold, Kristi Barker, Monica Batiste, Rachelle Beasley, Mary Benjamin, John Bliss, Phyllis Bonhagen, Diedra Bossier, Katie Botts, Sarah Boudreaux, Marcy Boudreaux-Johnson, Dina Bourque, Kerry Ann Breau, Phyllis Breau, Maria Brodie, Amanda Buteau, Russell Cailler, Carmen Cain, Carolyn Campos, Sera Centanni, Beth Chambers, Jim Chambers, Ashley Charpentier, Jackie Chaote, Patricia Clement, Shann Comeaux, Misti Darby, Carla Darcey, Dene Dauzat, Vianne Dawkins, Nicole Delahoussaye, Rachel Delcambre, Laura Delcambre, Nicole Duhon, Doug Duhon, Denise Ferguson, Keela Folsom, Cathy Frame, Denise Frederick, Donna Gilbert, Delia Girouard, William Greig, Brandi Gonzalea, Donna Goulas, Tiffani Granger, Patrice Grieg, Deany Guidry, Alanna Guillot, Mona Hahn, Renee Harelson, Callie Hardy, Erica Hargrave, Billy Hargroder, Dianne Hebert, Penny Hebert, Amy Hebert, Teres Johnson, Jan Johnson, Lacy Kibodeaux, Tori Kristicevich, Lea Lahasky, Amy Landry, Ginger Landry, Kim Landry, Rebecca Landry, Laurie LaPorte, Denette Latilais, Camille Lavigne, Hedi LeBlanc, Stephanie Leger, Hayley Lejeaune, Kim LeMaire, Carey Lemoine, Denise Lotief, Angie Louviere, Brenna Mahoney, Vanessa Mayon, Rebekah McGee, Susan Merritt, Dura Minix, Allison Moore, Claire Myers, Kelly Neel, Denise Nugent, Desmond O'Conner, Dori Perez, Tonya Perry, Rosanne Plagens, Rebekah Prudhomme, Rachael Rachel, Rachelle Rachal, Debie Rebert, Nancy Reeves, LaToya Rideau, Ashlyn Roger, Damon Romero, Jonathon Royer, Kristen Royer, Sherry Rude, Tina Sapienza, Rhonda Schwarzenburg, Ros Siebold, Jennifer Semien, Donna Shotwell, Christine Simon, Lisa Stokes, Eric Stromer, Tina Stutes, Monique Taylor, Shawne Taylor, Krystal Theriot, Lyndelle Theriot, Nikki Thevis, Patricia Thibodeaux, Charlene Trahan, Kathy Verrette, Gwen Vice, Melanie Voison, Margaret Walet, Leslie Willis, and Wendy Wisdom.

## CONDOLENCES TO PEOPLE OF JORDAN

**HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 15, 2005*

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my deepest condolences to the people of Jordan

in the wake of the deadly suicide bombings which occurred on November 9. Jordan has been a leader of peace and stability in the Middle East, and a strong ally and friend to the United States. King Abdullah stood firmly with the United States following the terrorist acts of September 11, and today the United States stands with him and his country.

Jordan, formerly led by the late King Hussein and now King Abdullah, has worked tirelessly towards the goal of finding a peaceful resolution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and promoting stability throughout the region. Jordan is a country of strength and tolerance. From the rubble of these attacks, I am confident Jordan will remain more committed than ever to the eradication of terrorism worldwide.

The heinous acts are the work of cowards. I am confident that Americans and Jordanians will come together in these tragic times to work together towards a safer and more peaceful world.

## RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING CONTINUING DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT OF EMPLOYERS OF MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND THE OTHER RE- SERVE COMPONENTS

SPEECH OF

**HON. RICHARD W. POMBO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 8, 2005*

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to relate the experience of Major Jeff Williamson, an employee of General Mills who serves in the Marine Forces Reserve. He was called to duty in February 2002 and sent to Camp Pendleton for anti-terrorism operations training. In March 2003, Major Williamson was sent to Iraq for initial operations, and remained until June 2003. During his service abroad, General Mills made up the difference to match what his regular salary had been while employed with the company back home. He and his family's medical and dental benefits remained unchanged during this time as well. When asked if he had any comments on how he felt about General Mills treatment of him during that time, he said he had not given that question much thought, adding that, that in itself, says a lot. Major Williamson commented that he did not have to worry about a thing as he and his family were well taken care of. In January, he will be considered for the position of Lt. Colonel. He is married to Tanja and they have two lovely little girls.

## TRIBUTE TO DENNIS UNDERWOOD

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 15, 2005*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a man who will long be remembered for his extraordinary leadership and the significant contributions he made to the western states of our Nation. Dennis Underwood served his country in many capacities and dedicated the better part of the past 35 years as an influential leader of water pol-

icy in the West. On November 2, 2005, Dennis passed away following a long battle with cancer. Our region collectively mourns his passing, while remembering his lifelong contributions.

Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation from 1989 until 1993, Dennis most recently served as the chief executive officer and general manager of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which serves 18 million people. Dennis also served as the Executive Director of the Colorado River Board of California. He worked tirelessly with the seven Basin States, the International Boundary and Water Commission, and various Federal agencies to develop and manage Colorado River water resources.

The greatest challenge facing the West today and for the foreseeable future is meeting water supply needs in an atmosphere of growing population, conflicting state and international claims, and demands of environmental protection. Although Dennis most recently represented water consumers in Southern California, his leadership, ingenuity, fairness, and perseverance yielded important dividends for water users throughout California, Nevada, Arizona, and other states that draw water from the over-allocated Colorado River.

Mark Twain famously stated that "whiskey is for drinking and water is for fighting." While the West has undoubtedly seen its share of water wars, I can't think of a person who had a better ability to get people to stop fighting and sit down at the bargaining table than Dennis. His wisdom, warm good nature, positive approach and—above all—sterling honesty kept all players in the Western water drama focused on finding solutions instead of persisting in conflict.

Personally, I had the pleasure and honor of working with Dennis on a number of important water issues, including the sometimes tumultuous negotiations of the Quantification Settlement Agreement, which brought California's water use in compliance with its legal apportionment for Colorado River supplies. In each instance, Dennis displayed a tremendous ability to find balanced solutions that satisfied all parties.

Mr. Speaker, the United States has lost a great servant, the West has lost a brilliant leader, and I have lost a dear friend. On behalf of our region, I want to convey our appreciation for all of Dennis's efforts and express our heartfelt condolences to the Underwood family, including his wife, Carmen; daughter and son-in-law, Michelle and Ryan Dejourmet; brothers, Russell, Lawrence, Rory, Kevin, and Jeffrey; and two grandsons.

## TRIBUTE TO BOB SANCHO

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 15, 2005*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Robert Sancho, an outstanding individual and a dear friend who has dedicated many years of service to empowering the people of my community. Tonight the Citizens Advisory Board will recognize him for his many achievements in the City of New York.

Bob was born and raised in the South Bronx. He is a product of the New York City